ATLAS
GUNSMOKE WESTERN

KID COLT STARRING IN

GUNSMOKE WESTERN

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

10¢

FEB.
NO. 39

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE KID WHEN HE HAS...

"NO PLACE TO TURN!"

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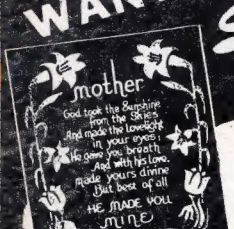

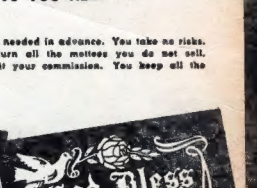

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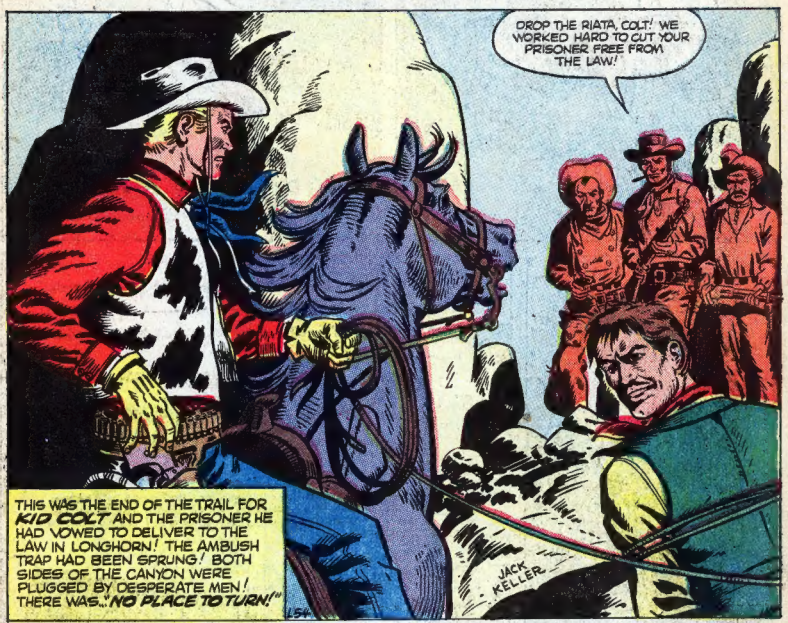
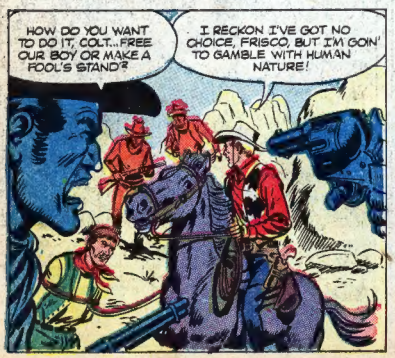
KID COLT OUTLAW


DROP THE RIATA, COLT! WE WORKED HARD TO CUT YOUR PRISONER FREE FROM THE LAW!
THIS WAS THE END OF THE TRAIL FOR KID COLT AND THE PRISONER HE HAD VOWED TO DELIVER TO THE LAW IN LONGHORN! THE AMBUSH TRAP HAD BEEN SPRUNG! BOTH SIDES OF THE CANYON WERE PLUGGED BY DESPERATE MEN! THERE WAS..."NO PLACE TO TURN!"
JACK KELLER

THEY SPOKE THE TRUTH! THERE WAS NO ESCAPE AND NO CHOICE BUT TO COMPLY...


HOW DO YOU WANT TO DO IT, COLT...FREE OUR BOY OR MAKE A FOOL'S STAND?
I RECKON I'VE GOT NO CHOICE, FRISCO, BUT I'M GOIN' TO GAMBLE WITH HUMAN NATURE!

NO PLACE TO TURN! THE KID'S MIND FLASHED BACK TO THE BEGINNING OF THIS DRAMA...A HOT, DUSTY DAY ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF JEZEBEL...

DISMOUNT AN' WALK OVER HERE WITH YORE HANDS HIGH, MISTER! THIS TOWN IS UNDER CURFEW!
GLAD TO OBLIGE, AS LONG AS IT'S NOT ME YOU'RE AFTER!

HOWDY, HANK! WHY HAVE YOU GOT THE TOWN TREED LIKE THIS?
I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU BEFORE, COLT! YOU CAN PUT DOWN YOUR HANDS, BUT I'LL HAVE TO CHECK YOUR GUNS!
WE'VE GOT LUKE FRASER PENNED UP IN TOWN AND THE FRISCO GANG IS JUST ACHIN' TO SET HIM FREE! WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CHANCES!
I DON'T BLAME YOU!
SUDDENLY...
TROUBLE'S BUSTED LOOSE AT THE OTHER END OF TOWN! FRISCO AN' HIS BUZZARDS GOT A BUNCH OF RENEGADE INJUNS TOGETHER! THEY'RE STORMIN' IN RIGHT NOW!
WE BETTER GET OVER THERE! KID, TAKE YOUR GUNS BACK! YOU MAY NEED 'EM!
MAYBE I'M LOCO, BUT THIS SMELLS TO ME LIKE A RUSE TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM THIS END OF TOWN!
GET GOING, STEEL! THIS IS THE TIME SOMEONE OUGHT TO BE CHECKING THE JAIL!
MOMENTS LATER...
HOWDY, MARSHAL! I'VE GOT AN IDEA THE PEN OUGHT TO BE GUARDED! I HEARD THE BOYS ARE RUSHING NORTH OF TOWN TO STOP AN ESCAPE ATTEMPT!
THE FOOLS DROPPED THEIR GUARD! THIS IS A TYPICAL FRISCO TRICK TO THROW US OFF BALANCE!
U.S. MARSHAL
I RECKON MY HUNCH WAS RIGHT!
FREEZE, THE WHOLE LOT OF YOU!

I'LL HANDLE FRISCO! TURN YOUR GUNS ON THOSE HOMBRES WITH THE POWDER KEG!
THEY WON'T LIGHT IT!
GET ON YOUR HORSES, BOYS! WE'VE GOT NO TIME TO FINISH THIS JOB!
MARSHAL! YOU HURT?
JUST A NICK! TRY TO STOP 'EM, KID!
LET 'EM GO! AT LEAST THEY DIDN'T GET WHAT THEY CAME FOR!
KID, THIS TOWN ISN'T HEALTHY FOR FRASER'S TRIAL! I'M DEPUTIZING YOU TO TAKE FRASER OVER TO LONGHORN TONIGHT!
CONSIDER IT DONE, MARSHAL!
THAT NIGHT, AS A PALE MOON GLOWED OVER THE PLAINS...
FRASER, I WANT YOU TO KNOW ONE THING! YOU'RE GOING TO REACH LONGHORN...DEAD OR ALIVE!
I DON'T SCARE EASY, MISTER! WHAT'S MORE, I DON'T CARE HOW I REACH LONGHORN! I DIDN'T ASK FOR THAT ATTEMPTED BUST-OUT!
HOW COME A HARDPAN BUSHWHACKER LIKE FRISCO WANTS YOU SO BAD? HE CAN GET ALL THE GUN HANDS HE NEEDS WITHOUT YOU!
FRISCO WANTS ME THE SAME AS YOU DO...DEAD OR ALIVE! I DON'T WANT TO PALAVER ABOUT IT ANY MORE! JUST GET ME TO LONGHORN!

THAT NIGHT, IN A SECLUDED ARROYO...
YOU'LL HAVE TIME TO SLEEP A FEW HOURS AND THEN WE'LL GET GOING!
I DON'T FEEL LIKE SLEEPIN'! IF YOU GOT A HUNK OF PENCIL AN' SOME PAPER, I'D LIKE TO SCRAWL OUT A SHORT LETTER!
THE KID WATCHED AS THE BANDIT LABORIOUSLY SCRATCHED OUT A MESSAGE...
YOU KNOW, FRASER, YOU GOT ME PUZZLED! HOW DO YOU FIGURE ON DELIVERING THAT MESSAGE?
I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D DELIVER IT FOR ME AFTER WE GET TO LONGHORN!
I NEVER DID MUCH GOOD IN MY LIFE, BUT I'D LIKE TO GET THIS TO MY MOTHER OUT IN YAQUI! IT MIGHT MAKE HER FEEL A MITE BETTER ABOUT ME!
MOUNT UP, FRASER! WE GOT THE WORST HALF OF THIS TRIP TO COVER AND YOUR AMIGOS MIGHT STILL BE LOOKING FOR US!
YOU CAN BET ON THAT! BUT WHAT THEY DO DOESN'T WORRY ME NONE! I WANT EVERYTHING FINISHED ONCE AN' FOR ALL!
THEY RODE IN SILENCE, BROKEN ONLY BY AN OCCASIONAL SPOKEN THOUGHT...
YOU KNOW, I'VE ALWAYS FIGURED AN HOMBRE LIVES WITH HIS CONSCIENCE...GOOD OR BAD! MAYBE ONLY ONE OF US WILL REACH LONGHORN! MAYBE IT WILL BE YOU!
MAYBE! I LEARNED LONG AGO NOT TO SELL FRISCO SHORT! HE GENERALLY GETS WHAT HE'S AFTER!
SUDDENLY...
HOWDY, GENTS! WE'VE BEEN WAITIN' FOR YOU A LONG TIME! UNTIE YOUR PRISONER, COLT, AN' LET HIM WALK TOWARD US! YOU'RE BOTTLED UP FROM BEHIND, TOO!
I FIGURED YOU'D MAKE SURE THERE'D BE NO PLACE TO TURN! WHAT'S YOUR STAKE IN MY PRISONER, FRISCO?
CUT FRASER LOOSE AN' REACH FOR THE CLOUDS! FRASER, TAKE HIS GUNS!
4

THE PAST WAS OVER AND THIS WAS THE PRESENT! TIME WAS RUNNING OUT FAST...
ONE LAST WORD, FRASER! REMEMBER WHAT I TOLD YOU ABOUT A MAN AND HIS CONSCIENCE! YOU GOT ABOUT TWENTY SECONDS TO LIVE WITH YOURS!
I GOT A LITTLE WORRIED YOU MIGHT TALK ABOUT THAT BUSINESS DOWN IN YUMA, FRASER! YOU WON'T TALK THOUGH, WILL YOU?
I NEVER TALK!
SUDDENLY, THE OUTLAW'S GUNS JERKED UPWARD AND BEGAN THUNDERING!
I LET MY GUNS TALK FOR ME, FRISCO—LIKE THIS!
NICE GOING, FRASER!
MAKE IT A CLEAN SWEEP, FRASER! THIS IS THE BEGINNING OF A NEW LIFE!
AND MOMENTS LATER, IT WAS OVER...
I'LL HAVE QUITE A PARTY TO BRING INTO LONGHORN! WHAT MADE YOU DO IT, FRASER?
WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT A CONSCIENCE! FRISCO DIDN'T WANT TO FREE ME! HE JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE I'D NEVER TALK ABOUT WHAT I SAW HIS GANG DO IN YUMA!
MIGHT AS WELL TIE ME WITH THE REST!
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY, FRASER! MOUNT UP AND LET'S GET GOING! I'LL HAVE A LOT OF TALKING TO DO IN LONGHORN!
I FIGURE YOU'LL STAND TRIAL BUT GET OFF WITH A LIGHT SENTENCE! I ALSO FIGURE MAYBE YOU'LL DELIVER THAT NOTE TO YOUR MOTHER IN PERSON!
BACK THERE, I THOUGHT THERE WAS NO PLACE TO TURN, BUT NOW I SEE PLENTY OF ROOM AHEAD! THANKS, KID!
TRACER

SAVING THE CATTLE

BOB HALING was sitting at the kitchen table doing his school homework when Tim Haling, his father and owner of the K Bar K ranch came cantering up toward the ranch house yard. Mr. Haling had been away most of the day up at the north end of the K Bar K surveying some of his land. Bob heard the door of the corral creak as it opened and closed and then his father's footsteps crunching the gravel on the path up to the kitchen door. He laid aside his notebook as the door opened.

"Evenin', son," Mr. Haling said.

"Evenin', pa," and Bob smiled a welcome. "Mom left your supper in the stove. She drove over to town with Mrs. Claypool to attend a meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary."

Wearily, Mr. Haling took his supper from the oven and ate it silently.

"What did the paper say about rain?" he asked, finally.

Bob shook his head.

"Drought's going to continue for at least another two weeks, the evening paper said," Bob replied with a sigh.

His father poured himself a cup of coffee.

"I've got worse news," he said, frowning. "Rade Kaydon is goin' to dynamite Beaver Creek right out of its bed!"

"Dynamite the creek out of its bed?" Bob asked, alarmed. "But that'll cut off the only supply of water we've got left!"

"I know," Mr. Haling acknowledged. He stared at Bob's school books. "And this is one situation where book learnin' can't do a thing!"

"What about the law?" Bob inquired.

Mr. Haling shook his head.

"Kaydon's not bustin' any law," he said. "What he's doin' isn't neighborly, but it's legal. I was talkin' to one of his ranch hands on our side of the boundary, and he told me about Rade's plans. So I dropped over to see Rade. He stands to lose a lot more cattle than we do from the drought. So he figured that by turnin' Beaver Creek along that string of arroyos, he can build up a good water supply in a couple of days and keep his own cattle from dyin' of thirst."

"But Beaver Creek runs through *our* land too, on its way south!" Bob protested angrily.

"That doesn't mean a thing," his father observed glumly. "The water'll build up ponds in the arroyos and in about a month it'll flow over that ridge in our south pasture and cut a new bed south. In fact the new course will be to our advantage in the end. But in the meantime, Kaydon will be saving about three hundred head of cattle, and we'll lose a hundred." He shook his head. "Drought's a bad thing on the range, son, and it can make otherwise good folks do strange things, even providin' they stay on the legal side of the law. You're not old enough to see that clearly yet, but you'll learn in the years to come . . . you'll learn!"

Bob considered a moment, thinking deeply. Finally, he said, "Look, Dad, I know a little about geology, and . . ."

Mr. Haling shook his head.

"I told you that book learnin' won't help here, son," he said tiredly. "This is a human problem."

"But you could always try being smarter . . ."

"Than Rade Kaydon?" Mr. Haling laughed. "Well, maybe some other time. Oh, we'll get through it, but we'll have to tighten our belts!"

"Anyway," Bob said slowly, "maybe you could take me up to the north end after school tomorrow. No harm in looking the creek over, is there? And I'd like to see how Kaydon turns a trick like turning a creek out of its bed."

Mr. Haling nodded.

"Okay by me, Bob," he said, and stretched, yawning. "I'm turning in."

Next day, after school, Mr. Haling picked Bob up with the buckboard and drove north toward the distant upper end of his spread. An hour later they came in sight of Beaver Creek and followed it as far as it went toward the border of the K Bar K.

All of a sudden they heard an explosion, then a second. Five minutes went by and then the earth shook with a third. Simultaneously, Mr. Haling urged the

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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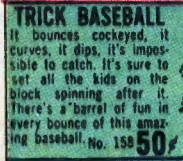

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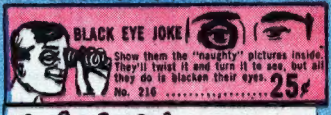

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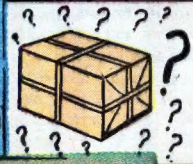

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IT WAS A DARING ROBBERY AND HE HAD ARRANGED IT ENTIRELY ON HIS OWN! NOW HE WAS ON THE WAY OUT... BUT THE WORST WAS FAR FROM OVER!

POSSE on my TRAIL!

I'LL GIT THE... OWW!
GET HIM OVER TO DOC SPEARS, AND THEN MEET ME AT CHARLIE'S PLACE! I'LL HAVE A POSSE READY AN' WAITIN'!
RIGHT, SHERIFF!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER, AS THE POSSE THUNDERED ALONG THE TRAIL...
HOOFPRINTS, SHERIFF!
HOLD ON, BOYS! WE'LL HAVE A LOOK!
WE'RE IN LUCK! THESE PRINTS SHOW THAT HIS HORSE HAS SPRUNG A SHOE! THAT MEANS HE WON'T GET FAR!
MAYBE HE CAN'T GET FAR, SHERIFF, BUT A MAN CAN HIDE IN THESE SURROUNDING HILLS FOR WEEKS!
SO HE COULD, HANK... BUT WILL HE?
AND AT THIS MOMENT, UP IN THE HILLS..
...OF ALL THE BAD BREAKS! NOW, WHEN I NEED 'IM MOST, HE LOSES A SHOE...
THAT MEANS I GO IT THE REST OF THE WAY ON FOOT! LUCKY FOR ME, IT'S IN MOUNTAIN COUNTRY! A MAN C'N HIDE OUT HERE FOR A LONG, LONG TIME!

WITH THE INSTINCTS OF THE HUNTER, THE OUTLAW STRUCK OUT FOR HIGH GROUND... AND AS DUSK FELL, HE CHUCKLED TO HIMSELF...
THAT'S THE THIRD TIME THE POSSE'S PASSED BELOW! I'LL BET ANYTHIN' THEY'RE GETTIN' MIGHTY WORN OUT!
TWO DAYS OF SEARCHING FOLLOWED, BUT WITHOUT RESULTS...
MAYBE WE HAVE GOT 'IM BOTTLED UP IN THEM HILLS, SHERIFF... BUT WE CAN'T KEEP CIRCLIN' THESE PARTS FOREVER!
I RECKON NOT, HANK!
HE C'N BE LOOKING DOWN ON US RIGHT THIS VERY MINUTE... HAVIN' HIMSELF A REAL, GOOD LAUGH!
THAT'S RIGHT, HE COULD BE...
MAYBE WE'D DO WELL TO HEAD BACK! WE CAN FRESHEN UP... TRY OUR LUCK LATER ON A BIT!
SURE... WHATEVER YOU SAY, SHERIFF...
THEY'RE RIDIN' OFF! MAYBE THEY HAVE HAD THEIR FILL, OR IT COULD BE THEY NEED FRESH HOSSES... AN' THEN THEY'LL COME BACK...
HE PUSHED FORWARD QUICKLY! TIME WAS IMPORTANT... AND THEN HE FOUND WHAT HE WAS LOOKING FOR...
PERFECT! I CAN SEE EVERY APPROACH, AN' THAT'S A MIGHTY FINE HOSS IN THE CORRAL!
THAT WOMAN IS THE ONLY ONE COMIN' IN AN' OUT FOR THE PAST HOUR! THAT MEANS SHE'S ALL ALONE...
3
CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

Draw me

YOU MAY WIN A
$375.00 SCHOLARSHIP
IN PROFESSIONAL ART

DRAW THIS GIRL'S HEAD 8 inches high. Use pencil. All drawings for December 1956 contest must be received by December 31. None returned. Winner notified. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible. Mail your drawing today!

PRIZE: A complete art course—free training for a career in advertising art, illustrating or cartooning—plus a drawing outfit and valuable art textbooks! You're coached by professional artists on the staff of world's largest home study art school. Many of its graduates are top artists today. Trained artists in demand. Try for this free art course!

USE 1 COUPON—THEN PASS THIS PAGE ON TO A FRIEND

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500 South 4th Street, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Please enter my attached drawing in your contest. (PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE_____

Address_____ Phone_____

City_____ Zone____ County_____

State_____ Occupation_____

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Please enter my attached drawing in your contest. (PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE_____

Address_____ Phone_____

City_____ Zone____ County_____

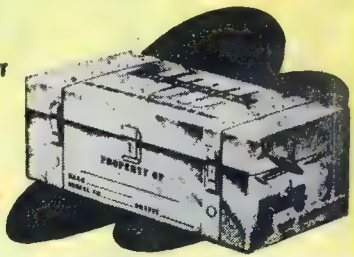
State_____ Occupation_____

SWIFTLY, COLDLY, THE OUTLAW MADE HIS MOVE...
DON'T MAKE ANY NOISE! STAY LIKE YUH ARE!
OHH!
DO LIKE I SAY AN' YOU WON'T GET HURT! I WANT FOOD, ALL YUH GOT.. AN' I'LL BE TAKIN' THAT HOSS TOO!
I-I'LL GET THE FOOD... RIGHT AWAY!
BUT IN THE NEXT INSTANT...
YOU'RE SURROUNDED, BECKETT! GIVE YOURSELF UP!
WHA-?
STAND CLEAR, CLARA!
YOU DID JUST WHAT I THOUGHT YOU WOULD, BECKETT!
...AND SO AFTER WE PRETENDED TO LEAVE, WE PLANTED THE HORSE AND THEN HAD CLARA COME IN AND OUT! WE FIGURED THE TEMPTATION WOULD BE TOO GREAT. AND IT WAS!
AND WHEN THE POSSE LEFT WITH THE PRISONER...
IT TOOK REAL COURAGE, CLARA!
I WAS SCARED SOME, DAD, BUT THEN, I'M THE SHERIFF'S DAUGHTER ...AND A DAUGHTER'S SUPPOSED TO HELP HER FATHER!

100 TOY SOLDIERS, MADE OF DURABLE PLASTIC, EACH ON ITS OWN BASE, MEASURING UP TO 4½"!

★ FUN TO SHOW
★ FUN TO TRADE
★ FUN TO COLLECT

PACKED in this FOOTLOCKER
TOY STORAGE BOX



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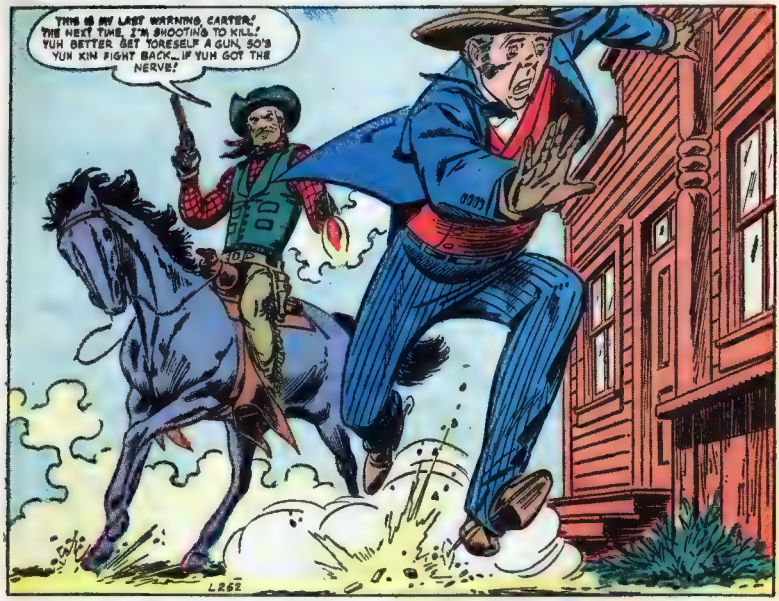
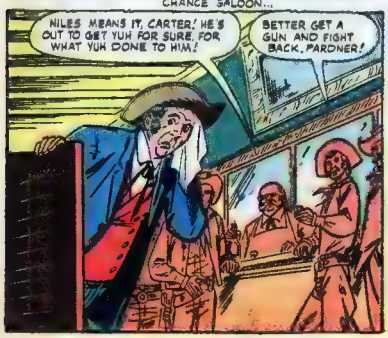
HIRED GUN!


THIS IS MY LAST WARNING, CARTER! THE NEXT TIME, I'M SHOOTING TO KILL! YUH BETTER GET YORESELF A GUN, SO'S YUH KIN FIGHT BACK... IF YUH GOT THE NERVE!
L262

WITH THE BULLETS FROM NILES' GUN SPRAYING DUST UP AROUND HIS FEET, CARTER RUSHED TO THE CLOSEST HAVEN... THE LOST CHANCE SALOON...

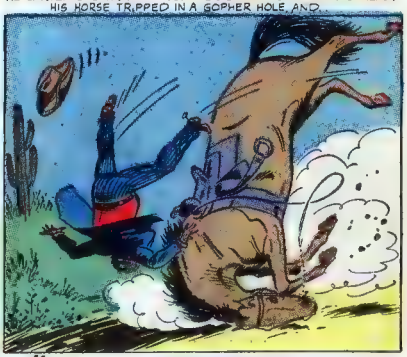


BUT... I CAN'T! JUST COULDN'T SHOOT AT A MAN!
WHEN YUH FORECLOSE ON A MAN BECAUSE HE'S ONLY A WEEK BEHIND ON HIS PAYMENTS, YUH GOTTA TAKE THE CONSEQUENCES! YOU'RE NOT AGAINST HURTIN' ANYBODY, CARTER! YOU'RE JUST TOO YELLA TO FIGHT IT OUT, MAN TO MAN!

I HEAR YOU'RE KINDA HARD WHEN IT COMES TO PARTIN' WITH MONEY! BUT IF YUH HIRE ME, YUH GOTTA PAY ME, MISTER! MY PRICE IS A HUNDRED DOLLARS!
A HUNDRED DOLLARS? WHY, THAT'S A FORTUNE!
THREE MINUTES GONE, CARTER!

THE STRANGER DREW HIS DOUBLE SIX-SHOOTERS! SUDDENLY, HE WAS TRANSFORMED! HE LOOKED AS LEAN AND AS DEADLY AS A COUGAR!

BUT FATE HAS A WAY OF DEALING HERSELF INTO EVERY HAND, AND AS CARTER GALLOPED ACROSS THE DESERT TOWARD HIS SPREAD, HIS HORSE TRIPPED IN A GOPHER HOLE, AND...



UNABLE TO MOVE, CARTER NOW SAW SOMETHING THAT, FROM A DISTANCE, LOOKED LIKE HELP...

THERE'S NOTHING THAT MONEY CAN'T BUY... A HIRED GUN... SOMEBODY TO HELP YOU MAKE A GETAWAY... ANYTHING!
NOW JUST WHAT KIND OF HELP IS IT YUH WANTED, MISTER?
THE.. THE HIRED GUN!
THAT'S RIGHT! WHAT'RE YUH DOIN' HERE, PARD? YUH WOULDN'T BE RUNNIN' OUT ON PAYIN' ME, WOULD YUH?
OH, NO, SIR! I... I...
HOPE NOT! AFTER ALL, I WENT THROUGH MY PART OF THE BARGAIN! I EXPECT TO BE PAID FOR IT!
SURE! SURE! I'LL PAY YOU YOUR HUNDRED!
A HUNDRED? SINCE I HAD TO CHASE YUH, MY FEE'S GONE UP A MITE!
OH, SURE! OF COURSE! HOW... HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT?
IT'S A THOUSAND DOLLARS... IN CASH... AND RIGHT NOW!
A THOUSAND DOLLARS! THAT'S HIGHWAY ROBBERY! I WON'T PAY IT!
NOW THAT SORT OF UPSETS ME, MISTER!
WAIT! I'LL PAY IT!

BUT WHAT HAPPENED? YOU AND NILES WERE SHOOTING AWAY AT EACH OTHER, AND YOU HAVEN'T GOT A SCRATCH!
THE WAY YUH TALK, I EXPECT YUH THOUGHT I WAS KILLED... AND NILES, TOO! YUH DIDN'T PLAN IT THAT WAY, DID YUH?
OH... NO! I WAS JUST WONDERING...
WELL, WE SHOT AWAY AT EACH OTHER, ALL RIGHT! YOU SEE, WHEN MY GUN'S HIRED, I ALWAYS COME THROUGH!
YOU BET HE DOES!
NILES! YOU'RE ALIVE!
THAT'S ONE THING YOU DIDN'T FIGURE ON, DID YOU, CARTER?
THANKS, PARDNER!
CARTER, HOW MUCH DO I OWE YOU ON THE MORTGAGE?
ONE... THOUSAND DOLLARS!
HERE YOU ARE... ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS... AND GIVE ME A RECEIPT! YOU SEE, I HIRED THIS GUN BEFORE YOU DID... TO PUT ON THIS ACT, SO WE'D SCARE YOU INTO GIVING ME THE MONEY! I FOUND OUT YOU'D CHEATED ME A THOUSAND DOLLARS ON THE MORTGAGE, AND THIS WAS MY WAY OF GETTIN' EVEN!
BUT YOU SHOT EACH OTHER! I SAW YOU!
WE USED BLANKS, MISTER! YUH DIDN'T THINK I WOULD REALLY KILL A MAN FOR A FEE, DID YUH? ONLY A SKUNK WOULD THINK THAT!
WHAT IS IT YOU'RE ALWAYS SAYIN', CARTER? MONEY CAN BUY ANYTHING? YOU WERE NEVER MORE WRONG IN YOUR LIFE!
THE END

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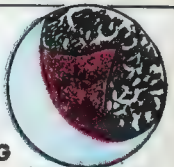

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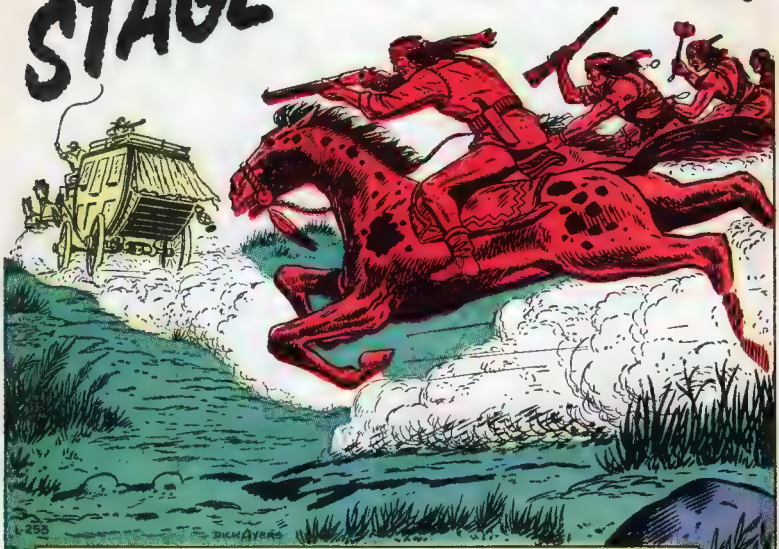
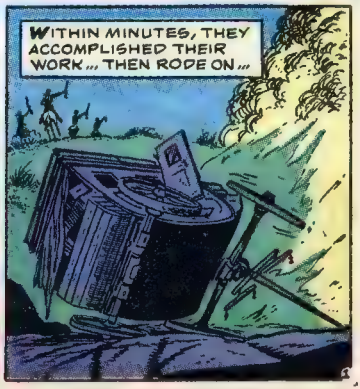
LAST STAGE from ABILINE!



IT WAS ALL SOUND AND FURY, WITH BURSTS OF GUNFIRE AND THUDDING HOOFBEATS, INTERMINGLING WITH THE STRIDENT HOWLS OF THE ATTACKING INDIANS... AND SLOWLY, STEADILY, THE GAP BETWEEN THE PURSUER AND THE PURSUED BECAME SHORTER AND SHORTER...



LATER THAT AFTERNOON, WHEN NEWS OF THE STAGE REACHED ABILINE...
THAT'S THE THIRD ONE WRECKED INSIDE OF A MONTH! WITH LOSSES LIKE THAT, HOW C'N JUDSON KEEP THE LINE GOIN'?
HOLD ON! HERE HE COMES NOW!
ABILINE SU
STOPPED BY THE PAIR, THE STAGE LINE OWNER GAVE HIS GRIM OPINION...
FRANKLY, BOYS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY! WE NEVER HAD REAL TROUBLE WITH THE INDIANS BEFORE! IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!
I'D SAY IT MADE A LOT OF SENSE, JUDSON! A SMART MAN WOULD KNOW WHEN HE WAS THROWING GOOD MONEY AFTER BAD! YOUR LINE IS THROUGH!
I DISAGREE, KANE!
MUCH AS YOU'D LIKE IT, I'M NOT GIVING UP! AND AS LONG AS I'M IN ABILINE, I'LL OPPOSE YOU AND EVERY OTHER GAMBLING OPERATOR IN TOWN!
SUIT YOURSELF!
BUT AT THE RATE YOU'RE GOIN', YOU MAY NOT BE IN ABILINE FOR LONG!
LATE THAT NIGHT, AT A SECRET MEETING PLACE...
YOU KEEP AFTER THOSE STAGES, JUST THE WAY YOU HAVE, AND I'LL SEE THAT YOU GET PLENTY OF RIFLES AND AMMO!
GOOD! WE DO LIKE YOU SAY!
JUDSON IS MY LAST ENEMY, BUT WITH HIS BUSINESS WRECKED, HE'LL BE UNABLE TO TOUCH ME... AND THEN, I'LL BE THE LAW IN ABILINE!

AGAIN AND AGAIN, THE STAGES LEFT, AND THEN SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING...
INJUNS! CLEAR OUT! RUN FER IT!
THE PASSENGERS ESCAPED, BUT NEVER THE STAGE...
AND WHEN ALL SEEMED LOST...
I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE, MARSHAL, BUT I'M AFRAID IT'S TOO LATE! I'M CLOSING DOWN THE STAGE!
BUT ABILINE NEEDS THE STAGE, AND MEN LIKE YOU!
I THOUGHT SO TOO ONCE, BUT KANE'S WON OUT! HE'S BEHIND ALL OF THIS... HIS KIND ALWAYS ARE!
THEN FIGHT HIM! GIVE IT ONE MORE TRY!
ALL RIGHT, MARSHAL... BUT IF IT DOESN'T WORK, IT'LL BE THE LAST STAGE OUT OF ABILINE!
SUPPOSE YOU ANNOUNCE THE RUN! I HAVE A FEW DETAILS TO TAKE CARE OF!
AND WHEN THE STAGE RUN WAS MADE PUBLIC...
JUDSON IS A GLUTTON FOR PUNISHMENT, BUT THIS WILL BE THE LAST RUN HIS LINE WILL EVER MAKE!
NOTICE! THE ABILINE STAGE WILL RUN TONIGHT! TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

LATE THAT EVENING, JUST BEFORE DEPARTURE TIME...
I-I'M SORRY, MR. JUDSON, BUT I'VE CHANGED MY MIND! I AIN'T DRIVIN' THIS STAGE... IT'S TOO RISKY!
BUT, CHARLIE, I NEED A DRIVER!
YOU'VE GOT A DRIVER, MR. JUDSON!
STAGE DEPOT
YOU, MARSHAL?
THIS STAGE IS CARRYING U.S. MAIL, SO I RECKON IT'S MY DUTY TO SEE THAT IT GETS THROUGH!
AND JUST TO MAKE SURE THAT IT DOES, I'M INVITING YOU TO RIDE ALONG WITH ME!
NO! Y-YOU CAN'T!
P-PUT ME OFF OF THIS THING! YOU'VE GOT TO... PLEASE!
WHY SO SCARED, MR. KANE? MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING YOU FEEL YOU OUGHT TO TELL ME!
THOSE INDIANS! THEY'LL BE WAITING!
WHERE ARE THEY WAITING, KANE? SPEAK UP, WHILE THERE'S TIME TO SAVE YOUR MISERABLE HIDE!
AT DEVIL CANYON, AN' IT AIN'T MUCH TO GO! TURN BACK!

LOOK! HERE THEY COME! TURN THIS THING AROUND!
NOTHING DOING! JUST LOOK BEHIND US AND YOU'LL SEE WHY!
CAVALRY!
I ARRANGED THIS MEETING, KANE, AND THEY'LL TAKE CARE OF YOUR HIRED RENEGADES!
WITH SLAMMING FORCE, THE TWO GROUPS MET HEAD-ON...
BUT BEFORE MANY MINUTES PASSED, THE RENEGADES WERE BEING PUT TO ROUT...
AFTER 'EM, LADS! WE'RE TAKING PRISONERS!
AND THE FOLLOWING DAY, IN ABILINE...
I'M IN BUSINESS AGAIN, MARSHAL, THANKS TO YOU!
AND KANE IS IN JAIL, WHERE HE BELONGS!
TICKETS
SOMEDAY THERE WILL BE A LAST STAGE OUT OF ABILINE, BUT PROGRESS WILL DECIDE THAT... AND NOTHING ELSE!
THE END
5

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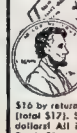

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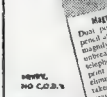

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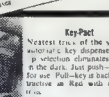

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Johnson Smith Co., Dept. 352, Detroit 7, Mich.

...CONTINUED

buckboard up a rise and halted at the top.

"They're doin' it," he said, and pointed.

About half a mile away, Bob could see a number of tiny figures working at a bend in Beaver Creek. Once more came a great burst of sound. Several tons of rock flew skyward in pieces.

"Look yonder," Mr. Haling said.

He was pointing to the lower end of Beaver Creek as it came onto the K Bar K land. Already it was lower. And then, almost abruptly, it slowed to a mere trickle. Father and son raised their heads and glanced east. Already a bright, glittering snake of water was tumbling down into its new bed, seeking the sharply sloping land toward the south. Swiftly it found its new course and kept on south.

"Some of our steers have taken their last drink," Mr. Haling said gloomily. Then he turned and went to the buckboard. Bob got in beside him and his father headed the horse south. About half an hour later, Bob suddenly touched his father's arm and pointed to a great bank of boulders, piled up like a long, continuous wall, on K Bar K land.

"Water's damming up there," he said. "Fifty pounds of dynamite would bring it through . . . or maybe . . ." He paused, his eye seeking out something. "Maybe . . ."

Mr. Haling shook his head.

"We're not foolin' with dynamite, son. And we can't afford a regular demolition crew. Nope. We're stuck." He stared at Beaver Creek in its new bed, dashing up against the bank and rushing on further south. "It's all in the game, Bob, all in the game. What are you lookin' at?"

Bob was staring straight ahead. He kept his eyes riveted on the landfall toward the south, until he became aware that his father had spoken. Then he said, "Huh? Oh, nothin', Dad, nothin' much."

The buckboard headed forward again. When they reached home, Mrs. Haling had supper ready, but none of them ate very much. Bob's parents retired early. And a quarter-hour later, Mr. Haling drew aside the curtains of the bedroom as he heard a sound.

"It's Bob," he told his wife.

"He's hitchen' up the buckboard again."

"Well, maybe he's going into town for the school dance," Mrs. Haling replied. "Let him have his fun, Tim. Life round the K Bar K isn't going to be much fun in the next few weeks."

For a moment, Mr. Haling mused, then he nodded, closed the curtains again and turned out the light. He was awakened by the sound of the alarm clock going off at six o'clock . . . time to begin the chores. But when he got up and threw back the curtains again, he gave an exclamation.

"Martha!" he burst out. "The buckboard's not in its place! That means Bob's not back yet! And . . ." He paused, a strange light coming into his eyes. Tim Haling swallowed hard. "Martha," he said hoarsely, "Look!" He pointed excitedly. "It's Beaver Creek! And it's flowin' south, right on our land!"

Dressing hurriedly, Bob's father dashed downstairs and flung open the front door, not daring to believe the evidence of his own eyes. But there it was . . . the creek, tumbling in still another bed to its final destination in the Platte. Mr. Haling stepped off the front porch, his eyes fixed on the life-giving water.

"Hi, pa!" Bob's voice sounded, and his father whirled, to see Bob coming up the north trail in the buckboard. "I see she got here ahead of me!" He stopped the wagon and leaped off.

"*You* did this, son?" Mr. Haling asked, astonished.

"With a little book learning, pa," Bob said, smiling. "I figured that by removing some of the boulders in that bank of rocks, we could divert the creek at that point and bring it down on our side. But you wouldn't let me use dynamite. So I went up there last night with some wood stakes in the buckboard. I've been studying geology and I knew those boulders were full of cracks. So I jammed in some stake wedges at different points and then the creek rose higher and wet them, and when they swelled, they split the boulders and brought the whole top of the rock bank down." He grinned again. "I reckon Rade Kaydon is gonna have to learn that it's all in the game!"

THE END F-902

THIS WAS THE LAST FRONTIER... AND GOPHER CITY WAS THE MOST LAWLESS TOWN IN THE OLD WEST! YOU LIVED LONGER IF YOUR DRAW WAS LIKE LIGHTNING! OTHERWISE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL HIGH-TAIL IT OUT OF TOWN FAST, EVEN IF YOU WERE A...

NEW LAWMAN *in* TOWN!

...AND **STAY** OUTA GOPHER CITY! THAT GOES FOR YOU AND ANY OTHER LAWMAN THEY SEND HERE!

SALO

L 281

BUFF HANLON AND HIS GANG WERE THE ROUGHEST BUNCH TO EVER HIT A ROUGH TOWN! THIS WAS THE TENTH DEPUTY THEY HAD CHASED OUT...

SORRY WE HADDA SHOOT SO CLOSE TO YUH, STRANGER! WE HADDA MAKE SURE THAT LAWMAN GOT OUR MEANING CLEAR! AND WHO MIGHT *YOU* BE?

NAME'S JACK CHALMERS...

...AND I HAPPEN TO BE THE *NEW LAWMAN IN TOWN!*

ARE YOU LOCO, MISTER? DIDN'T YUH JUST SEE US RUN THAT LAST ONE OUTA HERE? HE'S THE TENTH ONE WE DID THAT TO!
THAT'S WHY I WAS SENT HERE...TO PUT A STOP TO IT! WELL, I'LL BE SEEIN' YOU, GENTS!
WHY, YOU NERVY GALOOT! I'LL LEARN YUH RIGHT HERE AND NOW--
WAIT, BUFF! DON'T YUH KNOW WHO THAT IS? WE AIN'T GOT A THING TO WORRY ABOUT!
I HEARD ABOUT JACK CHALMERS! HE'S NEVER SHOT, AT A MAN IN HIS LIFE! THEY SAY HE AIN'T GOT THE NERVE!
OH, IZZAT SO! WELL, WE'LL MAKE LIFE INTERESTIN' FOR MR CHALMERS, WON'T WE, BOYS?
THE NEXT MORNING...
HEY, BUFF! LOOKIT THIS!
I NEVER LEARNED TO READ! WHAT'S IT SAY?
NOTICE
IT SAYS: "NOTICE! CHECK ALL GUNS AT MY OFFICE! ANY MAN CAUGHT WITH A GUN WILL BE DEALT WITH BY ME! ALSO BUFF HANLON AND HIS GANG WILL TIP THEIR HATS TO ME WHEN THEY PASS ME ON THE STREET! SIGNED...JACK CHALMERS!"
HA! HA! THAT'S RICH! US CHECK OUR GUNS... AND TIP OUR HATS TO THAT GALOOT... AN' HE NEVER SHOT AT A MAN IN HIS LIFE!
WHAT WE'LL DO TO HIM, EH, BUFF?
HERE I AM, BOYS! WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO TO ME?

YUH ASKED FOR A SHOW-DOWN, LAWMAN! THIS IS IT! DRAW!
I'M NOT DRAWING! AND I WANT YOU TO CHECK YORE GUNS ...AND THEN TIP YOUR HATS TO ME!
DRAW! I TELL YUH! I AIN'T SHOOTIN' ANY MAN WHO AIN'T GOT A GUN IN HIS HANDS!
I KNOW THAT! YOU GUNMEN RESPECT ONLY ONE THING... A SHOOTIN' GUN! THAT'S WHEN YOU'RE BRAVE...WITH A GUN IN YORE HANDS!
YUH REAL LOCO, OR WHAT? I COULD KILL YUH IN A SECOND!
BUT YUH WON'T, WILL YUH, BUFF? YORE KINDS TOO YELLA... YUH DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE A MAN WHO WON'T FIGHT BACK IN YORE STYLE!
BUFF! HE'S TAKIN' OUR GUNS AWAY! WHAT'LL WE DO?
IT'S WHAT I'M GONNA DO ...AND I AIM TO SHOW YUH...
FISTS, BOYS! THAT'S THE WAY I FIGHT MY BATTLES... MAN-TO-MAN!
LEMME GET MY HANDS ON MY GUN! I'LL SHOW YUH HOW I HANDLE LAWMEN!
GO AHEAD, BUFF! SHOW ME!
3

BUT SHOW ME WITHOUT A GUN! SHOW ME WITH FISTS!
I...I CAN'T! I NEVER LEARNED HOW! I CAN ONLY FIGHT WITH A GUN!
WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME YUH LEARNED... AND HERE'S YORE FIRST LESSON!
YUH HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO TAKE IT... LIKE THIS!
HAD ENOUGH? GET THE IDEA?
YEAH... YEAH! YUH KIN LET UP!
YOU'RE SMART, BUFF! YUH SEE, YOU TOUGH BOYS ARE JUST TOO SCARED TO SHOOT AT AN UNARMED MAN WHO CALLS YORE BLUFF! AND CALLIN' YORE BLUFF IS JUST WHAT I'M DOIN'!
A WEEK LATER...
GOPHER CITY'S ALL OUT!
THIS CAN'T BE GOPHER CITY... WITH THEM GUNMEN TIPPIN' THEIR HATS TO THAT MAN...
WHO IS HE ANYHOW?
THAT, MISTER, IS THE NEW LAWMAN IN TOWN! AN' HE'S HERE TO STAY... ALONG WITH LAW AND ORDER!

A NEW SCIENTIFIC TOY!

NUTTY PUTTY

ONLY $1.00

NUTTY PUTTY... real crazy!!! A liquid solid! Amazing and fun! Roll into a ball, it bounces! Hit with hammer—it shatters! Pull it slowly—it stretches! Press it on a comic book and it steals a perfect impression in color...Leave it alone and it sinks into a tired little puddle. Comes in a leakproof plastic egg...You'll relax with this one—and really have a ball.

It is made of the wonder material your parents have read about in Life, Time, and other magazines. Truly a great new toy. This is the real THING.

BOUNCE IT..

HIT IT..

IT'S GREAT FUN!

MOLD IT...

STRETCH IT...

Order now —Return this rush coupon with your $1.00

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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With Chapter On Sleight Of Hand

This book contains all the best tricks and deceptions with cards, including the latest tricks of all the top magicians. Each is especially picked so that it lends itself to home amusement and amazement. All simply explained. Chapter on sleight of hand is useful in detecting tricks while playing.

012 ____ **35c**

CONDENSED SMOKE POWDER

Simply set off the magic powder, and poof! disappear in a cloud of smoke. Terrific for all magical effects and disappearing acts. Completely harmless. Enough powder for hundreds of uses.

072 ____ **$1.00**

FLY IN ICE CUBE

Will create a sensation when they see this plastic ice cube in a cool drink. It has a real bug inside.

No. 034—Only **35c**

SHRUNKEN HEADS

FANTASTIC! Looks exactly like what jungle head hunters prepare. Something new and startling to hang in your car, or in your room. A horrible and unusual gift in a box.

617 ____ **$1.98**

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Let them complain about your "crazy" colored tie, and presto! it changes right before their eyes to a nice conservative tie. Do it anywhere, anytime! No threads, strings or wires used.

738 ____ **$1.00**

HOT PEPPER GUM

Looks like real gum, but when they taste it, WOW! Burns their mouth, but only like pepper. Package of five sticks.

No. 021 ____ Only **20c**

MUMMY

Place "King Tut" in his casket and watch him lie down. But, when someone else tries to rest him, he mysteriously rises from his grave. It's loads of fun and s-O-o-o mysterious.

724 ____ **75c**

SURE-WIN COINS

You get two coins. One is ordinary, the other looks exactly like it but has two heads. Do tricks, win friendly bets.

142 ____ Both only **25c**

TOYS! TRICKS! FUN!

BE FIRST IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD TO GET THESE WONDERFUL TOYS

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YOU, TOO, CAN BE TOUGH

Master Jiujitsu and you'll win any fight. This book gives you all the grips, blocks, etc., which are so effective in counter-attacking a bully or hold-up. You don't need big muscles or weight, know-how makes you the sure winner. We also send you FREE book on how to perform strong-man stunts, tear a telephone book in half, etc.

No. 224 ____ **$1.00**

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Types Red and Black — Uses Real Ribbon

This rotary typewriter turns out real typing with no previous practice using a ribbon and black and white type. Contains all the letters, numbers and punctuations you need. Has a replica of an actual touch keyboard, too.

203 ____ **3.98**

Brass cover is placed on four nickels. Spectator removes the cover and four dimes are discovered! Other startling effects performed.

No. 215 ____ **$1.00**

SILVER SKULL RING

Heavy Mexican silver ring with the raised face of skull and inlaid red ruby eyes. Feels good and looks really impressive. Adds heft to your hands.

566 ____ **$1.00**

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☐ I enclose _____ in full payment. The Honor House Products Corp. will pay postage.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus a few cents postage.

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"Started to repair sets six months after enrolling. Earned $12 to $15 a week in spare time."—Adam Kramlik, Jr., Sunneytown, Pennsylvania.

"Up to our necks in Radio-Television work. Four other NRI men work here. Am happy with my work."—Glen Peterson, Bradford, Ont., Canada.

"Am doing Radio and Television Servicing full time. Now have my own shop. I owe my success to N.R.I."—Curtis Stath, Ft. Madison, Iowa.

"Am with WCOC. NRI course can't be beat. No trouble passing 1st class Radio-phone license exam."—Jesse W. Parker, Meridian, Mississippi.

"By the time I graduated I had paid for my course, a car and testing equipment. Can service toughest jobs."—E. J. Streitenberger, New Boston, Ohio.

AVAILABLE TO VETERANS UNDER G.I. BILLS

Training plus opportunity is the PERFECT COMBINATION for job security, good pay, advancement. In good times, the trained man makes the BETTER PAY, GETS PROMOTED. When jobs are scarce, the trained man enjoys GREATER SECURITY. NRI training can help assure you more of the better things of life.

Start Soon to Make $10, $15 a Week Extra Fixing Sets

Keep your job while training. I start sending you special booklets the day you enroll, that show you how to fix sets. Multitester built with parts I send helps you make $10, $15 a week extra fixing sets while training. Many start their own Radio-Television business with spare time earnings.

My Training Is Up-To-Date

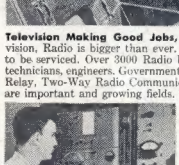
You benefit by my 40 years' experience training men at home. Well illustrated lessons give you basic principles you need. Skillfully developed kits of parts I send (see below) "bring to life" things you learn from lessons.

You Learn by Practicing with Parts I Send

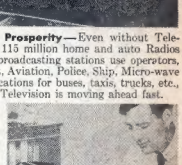
Nothing takes the place of PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE. That's why NRI training is based on LEARNING BY DOING. You use parts I furnish to build many circuits common to Radio and Television. As part of my Communications Course, you build many things, including low power transmitter shown at left. You put it "on the air," perform procedures required of broadcasting operators. With my Servicing Course you build modern Radio, etc. Use Multitester you build to make money fixing sets. Many students make $10, $15 week extra fixing neighbors' sets in spare time while training. Coupon below will bring book showing other equipment you build. It's all yours to keep.

The Tested Way To Better Pay!

Television Making Good Jobs, Prosperity—Even without Television, Radio is bigger than ever. 115 million home and auto Radios to be serviced. Over 3000 Radio broadcasting stations use operators, technicians, engineers. Government, Aviation, Police, Ship, Micro-wave Relay, Two-Way Radio Communications for buses, taxis, trucks, etc., are important and growing fields. Television is moving ahead fast.



About 200 Television stations are now on the air. Hundreds of others being built. Good TV jobs opening up for Technicians, Operators, etc.



25 million homes now have Television sets. Thousands more are being sold every week. Get a job or have your own business selling, installing, servicing.

Radio-TV Needs Men of Action—Mail Coupon

Act now to get more of the good things of life. Actual lesson proves my training is practical, thorough. 64-page book shows good job opportunities for you in many fields. Take NRI training for as little as $5 a month. Many graduates make more than total cost of training in two weeks. Mail coupon now. J. E. SMITH, President, National Radio Institute, Dept. 7AM1, Washington 9, D. C. OUR 40TH YEAR.

Good for Both—FREE

The ABC's of SERVICING

How to Be a Success in RADIO-TELEVISION

MR. J. E. SMITH, President, Dept. 7AM1,
National Radio Institute, Washington 9, D. C.
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